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Press Release For Immediate Release

Release No.: PR08-86 Date: July 15, 2008

Second Brigade's homecoming continues

FORT STEWART, Ga. (July 15, 2008) – Storm clouds threatened but the rain held off until the end of today's welcome home ceremony for 140 Soldiers with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division.

About 600 additional Spartan Brigade Soldiers returned during ceremonies over the weekend and Monday. To date, more than 3,000 2BCT Soldiers have come home.

Spartan Brigade commander Col. Terry Ferrell thanked the roughly 250 friends and family who came to today's ceremony for their devotion to their Spartan Soldiers during the 14-month deployment.

"Thank you for supporting your Soldiers," Ferrell said.

Ferrell also thanked the Soldiers for their service and welcomed them back to the "soil here at Fort Stewart, Georgia."

The brigade was mainly located in Arab Jabour and detained more than 800 terrorist suspects and helped foster Iraqi self-governance. Second Brigade Soldiers blocked weapons from entering the Iraqi capital, protected the local population, and trained Iraqi security forces.

Following Ferrell's welcome and the singing of the national anthem, the Marne Song and the Army Song, the family members and friends rushed from the bleacher's reviewing stands to greet their Soldiers.